

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 00479 211224Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6173

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SWEL, TPHY, TU, ACOM, MARR
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH MFA SEC GEN: MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

1. IN MEETING WITH MFA SECYGEN ELEKDAG JANUARY 20,
IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF GOT RELATIONSHIPS WITH
NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION (SEPTEL), SECYGEN ELEKDAG
AND AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS.
AMBASSADOR INQUIRED AS TO STATUS OF HIS REQUEST THAT
APO PACKAGE SERVICE (TEMPORARILY RESTORED OVER CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAYS) BE REESTABLISHED PERMANENTLY BY GOT AND
AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE KEY MORALE IMPORTANCE OF THIS
TO U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED IN TURKEY.
ELEKDAG SAID THAT NO FINAL DECISION HAD BEEN MADE
BUT MFA HAD TAKEN POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS IT, AS
HAD SOME OTHER IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN GOT, AND HE WAS HOPEFUL
OF AN EARLY, FAVORABLE DECISION. HE CAUTIONED HOWEVER
THAT SUCH A DECISION WAS BY NO MEANS YET ASSURED.

2. AFTER DISCUSSING RECENT ATHENS NEWS STORY MISQUOTING
AMBASSADOR AND NOTING ACTIONS EMBASSY HAD TAKEN TO PUT
STORY STRAIGHT, (EMBTel 0343) AMBASSADOR ASKED ELEKDAG IF HE
HAD ANYTHING TO ADD TO THEIR LAST CONVERSATION ON THE
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SUBJECT OF EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS. ELEKDAG SAID THAT
MATERIAL AMBASSADOR HAD LEFT (EMBTel 9669) WAS BEING STUDIED, BUT
HE WAS NOT SURE JUST HOW FAR THAT EXAMINATION HAD
PROGRESSED. HE SAID HE WOULD CHECK AND LET AMBASSADOR KNOW
NEXT TIME THEY MET.

3. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED HIS RECENT VISIT TO VAN

EARTHQUAKE AREA AND ADVISED ELEKDAG THAT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS NOW TRANSPORTING 500 MORE WINTERIZED LICROSS TENTS TO THE AREA. HE ALSO NOTED THAT HE EARLIER IN WEEK HAD TURNED OVER A CHECK FROM THE WORLD RELIEF COMMISSION FOR 5,000 DOLLARS TO THE GOT-UNICEF-CARE CHILD FEEDING PROGRAM IN THE EARTHQUAKE AREA. AMBASSADOR ALSO MENTIONED THE INTRODUCTION OF THE KENNEDY TURKISH EARTHQUAKE RELIEF BILL AND LEFT A COPY OF THE LANGUAGE SENATOR KENNEDY HAD USED IN INTRODUCING THIS LEGISLATION. ELEKDAG EXPRESSED APPRECIATION ON BEHALF OF GOT FOR WHAT USG WAS DOING IN SUPPORT OF VAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF AREA. MACOMBER

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